



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
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**Tara B. White, Chair  
Michele Shalaby  
Nathaniel H. Yohalem  
Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting  
August 29, 2014**

**Board Members Present:** Tara B. White, Chairman  
Michele Shalaby  
Nat Yohalem

**Others Present:** Francine Groener  
Tom Simon, Principal

The meeting at New Marlborough Central School convened at 3:30 p.m.

The Board of Selectmen met with Francine Groener and Principal Tom Simon at the New Marlborough Central School to discuss the school in anticipation of the meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm on the outlying schools.

The school currently has 84 students with 68 of these district students and 16 choice students. The grades are made up of the following:

Pre-K—10---max for class is 12—2 choice  
Early K and —16---max for class is 18—3 choice  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades—19—4 choice  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades—19 —4 choice  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades—20—3 choice

Francine explained that the draw of New Marlborough Central is the multi-grade classes where the older children interact with the younger children in the learning process. She also credits the parents who send their children here with volunteering a great amount of time with the activities and programs.

There are 5 total teachers, 4 paraprofessionals, 1 SPED teacher, a part-time nurse and full time secretary and custodian.

Lunches are brought in from the main campus. Some updates to the cafeteria are going to happen, but they will not be making it a self-sufficient cafeteria where all the meals are made.

When asked about Capital Improvements, Francine told us that, yes, it would be wonderful to have a gymnasium, but that they are quite happy with the downstairs in the inclement weather and outside when it is nice out. The kitchen updates will help with heating up meals, the boiler still needs repair and there are some issues with the sewer lines. Other than that, she feels the children have a very happy school day.

When asked about an afternoon program, Francine said they had tried it, but it did not work for parents schedules. They do have some afternoon activities.

Of the 17 fourth graders who left New Marlborough Central last year, 14 of them went on to the Sheffield Campus.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Submitted by:

Tara White